



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS, 18<sup>TH</sup> MILITARY POLICE BRIGADE  
MANNHEIM, GERMANY APO AE 09058

BRVD  
ATTN:CT

AETV-MP-H

21 July 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Policy Memorandum # 19, Extremist Organizations and Activities

1. Purpose. To establish the Commander's policy on extremist organizations and activities.
2. Applicability. To all personnel and organizational elements assigned or attached to the 18<sup>th</sup> Military Police Brigade.
3. References. AR 600-20, Paragraph 4-12, 13 May, 2002. AR 670-1, Paragraph 1-8 (e), 3 February 2005.
4. Responsibilities.
  - a. Leaders at all levels, military and civilian, will advise subordinates that extremist organization's goals are inconsistent with Army goals, beliefs, and values concerning equal opportunity. Also, leaders will ensure that subordinates thoroughly understand that extremist groups take on supremacist causes, attempt to create illegal discrimination, advocate the use of force, and/or otherwise engage in efforts to deprive individuals of their civil rights.
  - b. It is the responsibility of all leaders to identify and report any suspected extremist activity.
5. Policy.
  - a. Participation. Military personnel must reject participation in extremist organizations and activities. Extremists organizations and activities are the ones that advocate racial, gender, or ethnic hatred or intolerance; advocate, create, or engage in illegal discrimination based on race, color, gender, religion, or national origin; advocate the use of or use force or violence or unlawful means to deprive individuals of their rights.
  - b. Prohibitions. While entitled to personal beliefs, soldiers are prohibited from the following actions in support of extremist organizations or activities:
    - (1) Participating in a public demonstration or rallies.

- (2) Knowingly attending a meeting or activity.
- (3) Fund raising activities.
- (4) Recruiting, or training members (including encouraging other soldiers to join).
- (5) Creating, organizing, or taking a visible leadership role in such an organization or activity.
- (6) Distributing literature on or off a military installation with the primary purpose and content of which concerns advocacy or support of extremist causes, organizations, or activities; and it appears the literature presents a clear danger to the loyalty, discipline, or morale of military personnel, or the distribution would materially interfere with the accomplishment of a military mission.

c. Penalties for violations of these prohibitions include the full range of statutory and regulatory sanction, both criminal and administrative.

6. Commanders have the authority to prohibit military personnel from engaging in or participating in any activity that will adversely affect good order and discipline or morale within his or her command. This includes but is not limited to, the authority to order the removal of symbols, flags, posters, or other displays from barracks.

7. Tattoo Policy:

a. Tattoos or brands that are extremist, indecent, sexist, or racist are prohibited, regardless of location on the body, as they are prejudicial to good order and discipline within units.

b. For Soldiers who are not in compliance, commanders may not order the removal of a tattoo or brand. However, the commander must counsel Soldiers, and afford them the opportunity to seek medical advice about removal or alteration of the tattoo or brand.

c. If Soldiers are not in compliance with the policy, and refuse to remove or alter the tattoos or brands, commanders will:

- (1) Ensure the Soldier understands the policy.
- (2) Ensure the Soldier has been afforded the opportunity to seek medical advice about removal or alteration.
- (3) Counsel the Soldier in writing. The counseling form will state that the Soldier's refusal to remove extremist, indecent, sexist, or racist tattoos or brands anywhere on the body will result in discharge.

AETV-MP-H

SUBJECT: Policy Memorandum # 19, Extremist Organizations and Activities

8. Commanders must take positive actions to educate soldiers, and put them on notice of the potential adverse effects that any violation of this policy may have upon the unit and their military service. Furthermore, assistance from the Staff Judge Advocate and Equal Opportunity Advisor will be utilized pursuant to this policy letter.

9. This policy will be posted on every unit's and outlying platoon bulletin boards.

10. "EVER VIGILANT!"

  
MARK S. SPINDLER  
COL, MP  
Commanding

DISTRIBUTION:

A